



# **Observed cirrus cloud radiative forcing on surface-level shortwave and longwave irradiances**

*J-C. Dupont, M. Haeffelin*

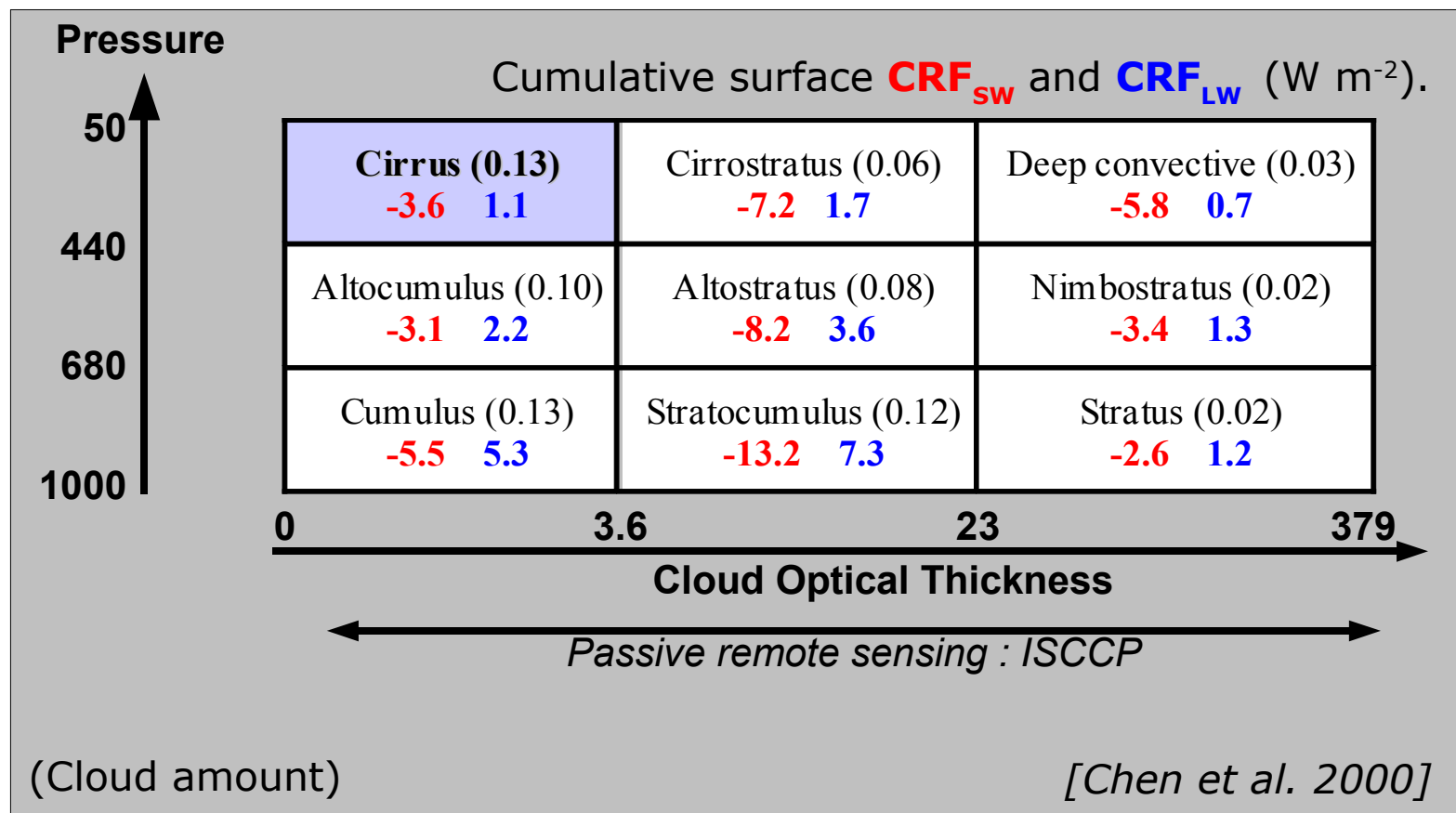
Institut Pierre et Simon Laplace, Ecole Polytechnique, France

The authors would like to thank the Office National d'Etudes et de Recherche en Aérospatiale (ONERA) and Centre National de la Recherche Scientifique (CNRS) for their support in this study.

We extend acknowledgements to the US ARM program, the NASA MPLNET program and the NASA/CNES CALIPSO program for providing the data used in this study



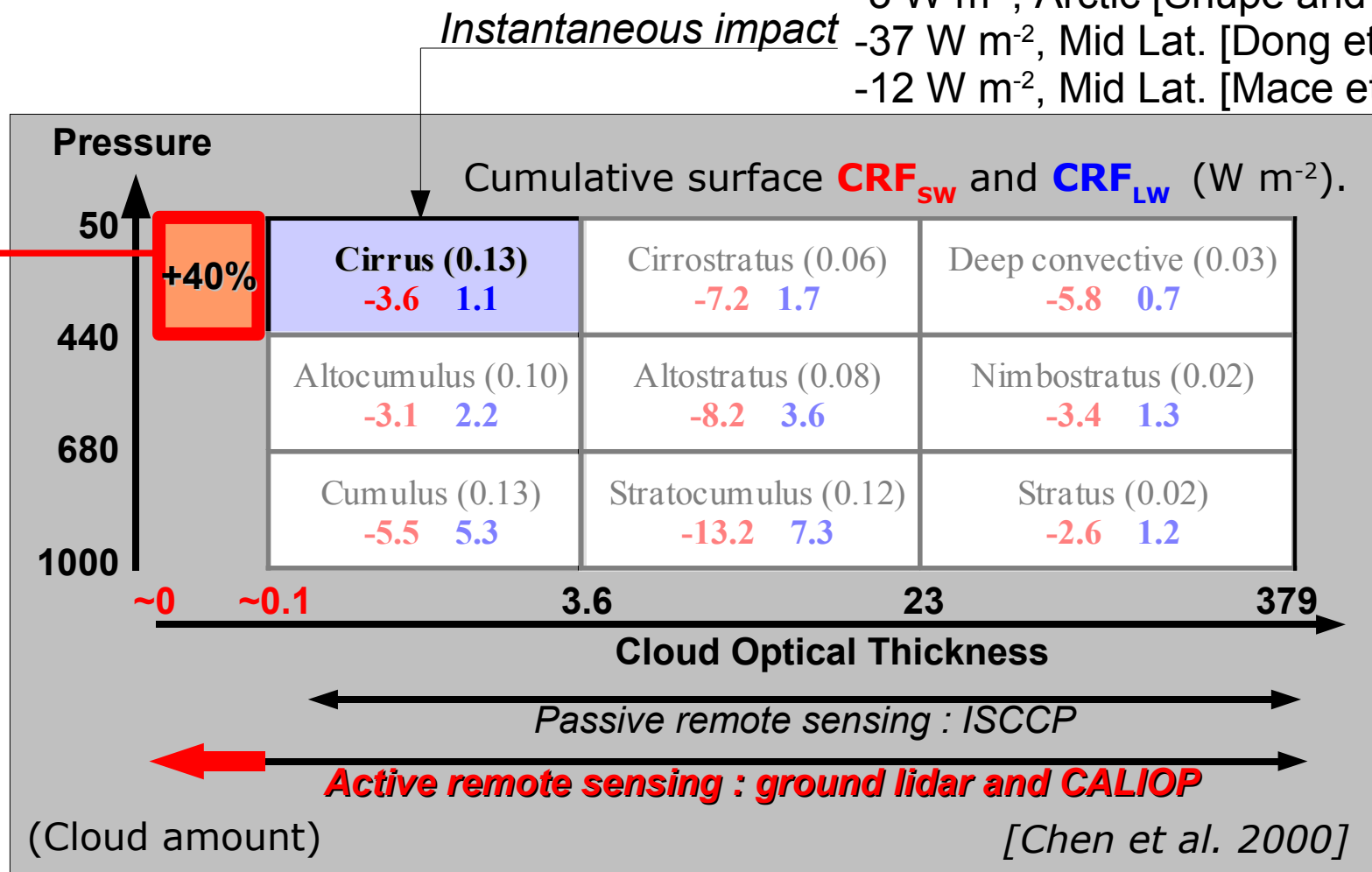
## ISCCP D-series data



# Problematic ?



-3 W m<sup>-2</sup>, Arctic [Shupe and Intrieri, 2003]  
-37 W m<sup>-2</sup>, Mid Lat. [Dong et al., 2005]  
-12 W m<sup>-2</sup>, Mid Lat. [Mace et al., 2006]



**Goal of this study : Quantify regional and global impact of optically thin clouds (typically with COT<0.1) previously not detected by passive remote sensing**

Poster session A, n° J3 : **Toward a global climatology of optically thin clouds derived from networks of ground-based lidars**, presented March 11, 05:30 pm – 08:30 pm.



## **Objectives of this study :**

- Quantify the mean radiative impact (SW and LW) of high altitude and optically thin clouds on multiple sites at different latitudes (Arctic, Midlatitude and Tropical regions) ;
  - **Focus on cirrus cloud with  $COT < 0.1$  ;**
- Establish the relationship between  $CRF_{SW}$  /  $CRF_{LW}$  and macrophysical properties of cirrus clouds (cloud optical thickness, cloud base height, cloud temperature) ;
- Estimate the impact of atmospheric humidity (IWV) and aerosol content (AOT) on the CRF (i.e study pristine and turbid atmosphere impact) ;

# Observatories



## SIRTA (oceanic / continental)

N 48°42'00", E 2°12'28"

Alt. 156 m

## ARM NSA, Barrow (arctic)

N 71°18'43", E - 156°39'54"

Alt. 0 m

## ARM SGP, Lamont (continental)

N 36°36'25", E - 97°29'09"

Alt. 318 m

## ARM TWP, Darwin (oceanic)

S 12°25'26", E 130°53'31"

Alt. 29 m

## ARM TWP, Nauru (oceanic)

S 00°31'15", E 166°54'57"

Alt. 7 m





# Clear-sky references



$$CRF_{SW} = SW_{measured} - SWCSM$$

$$CRF_{LW} = LW_{measured} - LWCSM$$

## Clear-Sky periods detected by 3 thresholds

**1/ Lidar algorithm**  
[Morille et al., 2007]

**2/ LongWave flux algorithm**  
[Dürr and Philipona, 2004]

**3/ ShortWave flux algorithm**  
[Long and Ackerman, 2000]



remove cirrus clouds from the dataset



dettect low and middle level cloud



hazy cases [Dupont et al., 2008]

### ShortWave Clear-Sky Model

$$SWCSM = a \times \cos(SZA)^b \times c^{1/\cos(SZA)} + \Phi_{(AOT, IWV)}$$

[Dutton et al. 2001] Corrective function

**a** : solar constant adjusted for the Earth-Sun distance for each site

**b, c** : constants adjusted on clear-sky atmosphere and correspond to average scattering of atmosphere for each site

**Mean RMS error < 10 W/m<sup>2</sup>**

### LongWave Clear-Sky Model

$$LWCSM = \frac{\overbrace{\alpha \times (e/T)^{1/7}}^{\varepsilon \text{ Brutsaert}}}{\Gamma_{(e, T, IWV)}} \times \sigma \times \left[ \frac{T}{\Pi_{(T)}} \right]^4$$

[Dupont et al., 2008]

**T** : 2m-height temperature (K)

**e** : water vapor pressure near the surface (hPa)

**σ** : 5.67\*10<sup>-8</sup> W m<sup>-2</sup> K<sup>-4</sup>

**α** : constant adjusted on clear-sky periods

**Γ** : proxy for vertical distribution of humidity

**Π** : proxy for thermal inertia of atmosphere

**Mean RMS error < 2 W/m<sup>2</sup>**

**=> Clear-sky parameterizations directly fit to observed data**

# Observed CRF<sub>sw</sub>



$$\text{CRF}_{\text{sw}} = \text{SW}_{\text{measured}} - \text{SW}_{\text{clear-sky reference}}$$

Observed cirrus cloud radiative forcing for shortwave flux <sub>i</sub> (W m <sup>-2</sup> )				
	SIRTA Palaiseau, 48°N	ARM SGP Lamont, 36°N	ARM TWP Nauru, 0°S	NSA SGP Barrow, 71°N
Cirrus occurrence (%) <sup>1</sup>	49,0	25,6	43,2	3,2
CRF <sub>sw</sub>	-28 (-13,7) <sup>2</sup>	-32 (-8,2) <sup>2</sup>	-38 (-16,4) <sup>2</sup>	-25 (-0,8) <sup>2</sup>
Standard deviation	72,0	64,0	65,0	41,0
Standard error	10,0	11,0	6,6	7,3
Relationship between CRF <sub>sw</sub> and COT ( slope in W m <sup>-2</sup> COT <sup>-1</sup> )				
All atmosphere	-130,7 ± 5.1	-122,8 ± 9,7	-123,2 ± 5	-201,5 ± 8,9
Turbid atmosphere	-121,1 ± 4 (-8 %)	-117,3 ± 5 (-5 %)	-114,8 ± 5 (-7 %)	-114,4 ± (-43 %)
Pristine atmosphere	-146,1 ± 4 (+11 %)	-137 ± 8 (+11 %)	-157,6 ± 4 (+28 %)	-237,4 ± (+17 %)

<sup>1</sup> Cirrus present in lidar observations

<sup>2</sup> Mean impact multiplied by the cirrus occurrence

Average sensitivity of CRF<sub>sw</sub> to COT is more important for Arctic region (-200 W m<sup>-2</sup> COT<sup>-1</sup>) than for Midlatitude region (-130 W m<sup>-2</sup> COT<sup>-1</sup>) due to low IWV. The mask effect of atmosphere below the cloud ranges from -5 % to -40 % for Midlatitude and Arctic region respectively.

Note : At ARM TWP Darwin, we find a mean shortwave radiative impact of cirrus clouds of  $\sim -24 \pm 7 \text{ W m}^{-2}$  and a slope of  $-440 \pm 5 \text{ W m}^{-2} \text{ COT}^{-1}$  for the period between May and October 2005.

# Observed CRF<sub>LW</sub>



$$\text{CRF}_{\text{LW}} = \text{LW}_{\text{measured}} - \text{LW}_{\text{clear-sky reference}}$$

## Observed cirrus cloud radiative forcing for longwave flux ( $\text{W m}^{-2}$ )

	SIRTA Palaiseau, 48°N	ARM SGP Lamont, 36°N	ARM TWP Nauru, 0°S	NSA SGP Barrow, 71°N
Cirrus occurrence (%) <sup>1</sup>	49,0	25,6	43,2	3,2
Mean impact	6,6 (3,2) <sup>2</sup>	8,9 (2,3) <sup>2</sup>	0,8 (0,3) <sup>2</sup>	5,5 (0,2) <sup>2</sup>
Standard deviation	9,9	7,7	6,5	7,0
Standard error	1,9	1,8	1,0	2,7
Relationship between CRF <sub>LW</sub> and LW <sub>cirrus</sub>				
CRF <sub>LW</sub> /LW <sub>cirrus</sub>	0,24	0,28	0,03	0,4
Mean IWV, cm	1,4	1,5	4,7	1,1

<sup>1</sup> Cirrus present in lidar observations

<sup>2</sup> Mean impact multiplied by the cirrus occurrence

Instantaneous CRF<sub>LW</sub> is more important in Arctic and Midlatitude region ( $5\text{--}9 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ ) than in Tropical region ( $1 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ ). Sensitivity of CRF<sub>LW</sub> to LW<sub>cirrus</sub> ranges from 40%, 26% to 3%, for Arctic, Midlatitude and Tropical sites respectively.

Note : At ARM TWP Darwin data, we find a mean longwave radiative impact of cirrus clouds of  $\sim +5 \text{ W m}^{-2}$ .



# Conclusions & Perspectives

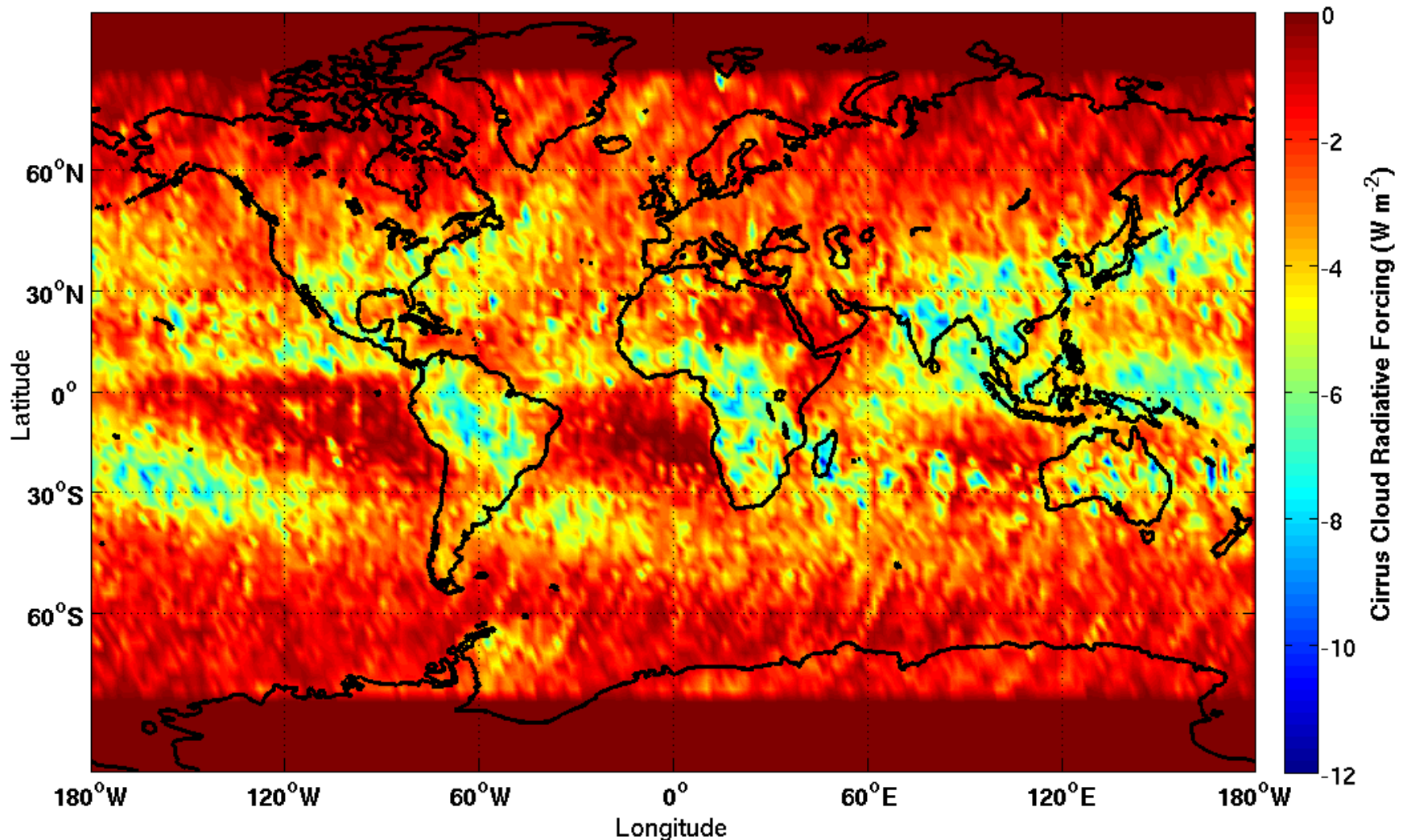


- Average instantaneous radiative effect of high altitude clouds :
  - $CRF_{SW}$  is about **-30 W m<sup>-2</sup>**
  - $CRF_{LW}$  ranges from **1 to 9 W m<sup>-2</sup>**
- The **significant coverage of cirrus clouds** (25% and near 45 % in Midlatitude and Tropical region respectively) increases the **contribution of these clouds** to the total radiation budget compared to other types of clouds.
- Average sensitivity of  $CRF_{SW}$  to  $COT$  ranges from **-130 to -200 W m<sup>-2</sup> COT<sup>-1</sup>** (-40 % to +30 % for turbid and pristine atmospheres respectively).
- Relationship between  $CRF_{LW}$  and  $LW_{cirrus}$  ranges from **3 to 40 %** and strongly depends on the atmospheric humidity.
- Cirrus clouds detected by lidar but not by passive instruments ( **$COT < 0.1$** ) have a mean impact near **-5 and +1.1 W m<sup>-2</sup>** for SW and LW fluxes respectively.
- Future work consists in applying the relationships between cirrus cloud radiative forcing and macrophysical properties of these clouds to global scale (data provided by CALIPSO).

Poster session A, n°K3 : **Observed cirrus cloud radiative forcing on surface-level shortwave and longwave irradiances**, presented March 11, 05:30 pm – 08:30 pm.



Ground-level cirrus cloud radiative forcing for SW irradiances at global scale  
*Preliminary results, Calipso data, Ivl1 v1*





*Thank you for your attention...*

*... questions*